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EDITORIAL ON THE STATUS OF WEST BERLIN

Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 14 May 77 p 2

[Article by Pal Pinczesi: "A Strange Statement"]

[Text] To put it mildly, the heads of the state or of the governments of the United States, England, France and the FRG have released a strange statement about the status of West Berlin.

Even the fact itself is strange that they considered it necessary to bring up their "questions" about West Berlin again now; Even though in this joint communique they mentioned that the 3 September 1971 quadripartite agreement made regarding the city had a positive effect on West Berlin's situation. Thus the fact is that certain cold war circles have endeavored and are endeavoring in vain to maintain West Berlin's earlier character as a frontier city, the situation at this point of the world is incomparably more relaxed than it was earlier. Precisely the example of Klaus Schutz, West Berlin's deposed governing mayor proves that today it does not pay to speculate to stir up international tension either in West Berlin or outside the city.

Further, it is also strange that the signers of the statement base what they have to say only on suppositions, and they start out from what would happen "if any one of the four great powers did not honor their pledges." Well, this is just a kind of playing with words. Nothing but the supposition that the Soviet Union--as one of the signers of the 3 September 1971 agreement--and further the GDR--an extremely interested party in the normalization of the West Berlin situation--might wish to violate West Berlin's special status. Let this uncontradictable fact serve as an answer: Since the signing of the quadripartite agreement West Berlin's status has in fact been violated many times, the agreement has been misused innumerable times, and there have been concessions which primarily the residents of West Berlin enjoy; but these illegalities always emanated from the West Berlin side, or the FRG. It is the primary interest of the Soviet Union and the GDR, which, as is well known, surrounds West Berlin on all sides, that there be quiet, order and tranquility around West Berlin, that the city live its everyday life undisturbed. Thus the fact that the Westerners

are trying now, even if in a low-key manner, to accuse the Soviet Union-- and the GDR--of possibly violating the quadripartite agreement in the future is having an unequivocally negative affect upon the international situation and does not augur well for a thaw.

And last but not least, the forgetfulness is also strange which the signatories of the communique are witnessing: They are elaborating at length on the arbitrarily selected point, quite out of its context within the 1971 quadripartite agreement, that according to the agreement the "ties" between West Berlin and the FRG are to be improved. (By the way, even this definition is in error, since exactly this point of the text of the 1971 agreement was falsified in the FRG, and they are using the word "Bindungen"--in Hungarian: bonds--instead of the word "Verbindungen"--in Hungarian: connections). But they completely forgot exactly the very heart of the 1971 quadripartite agreement, its soul: that is, that West Berlin is not a part of the FRG, that this city is not governed from the FRG. It is obvious that without this extremely important statement the 1971 agreement cannot even be approached properly.

Someone might say that such a thing is a routine communique, perhaps the repetition of some earlier one. This is not true for several reasons. First: the tone of the communique is significantly harsher than that of the earlier, similar revelations. Second: to bring up this essentially resolved West Berlin issue again now, before the Belgrade conference of European countries, and in addition to do so in such a harsh manner, without any self-control, is really not the best preparation for this important conference.

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DEFECTS CITED IN MILITARY TRAINING OF POPULATION

Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 19 Apr 77 p 3

[Article by Dhori Jorgji, instructor in the Central Committee Apparatus of the Albanian Workers Party]

[Text] The circumstances in which we are living and building socialism and the existence of the imperialist-revisionist encirclement of our country dictate to our people the continual strengthening and perfecting of the defense of the fatherland. In this very important matter, our party adheres to the principle that "the defense of the fatherland has been and will always remain a task above all others, a great cause for all the people." Applying this fundamental principle, it has amassed a wealth of experience. With the continual measures taken to revolutionize our armed forces, especially in the last few years, it has become possible to bring military education and training out of the barracks and have them take place where the workers work and learn. Thus, the country's defense is being extended to the whole territory of the Republic to confront not only any sudden assault by the enemy, but also his numerical superiority in men, arms and combat technology, and to scorch and annihilate him in the fire of the people's war. Comrade Enver Hoxha teaches us: "There is no stronger army than an armed and militarily prepared people!"

Our people have been convinced by historic reality itself that freedom and socialism cannot be given or granted by others but neither can it be defended by others. Alien and unacceptable to the workers of socialist Albania are the bourgeois-revisionist theories of cosmopolitanism and "limited sovereignty," the theories of defense under the umbrella of a superpower or groups of political-military alliances, slogans about disarmament, about collective security, and so forth and so on, which are nothing but efforts to lower the vigilance of the peoples and inculcate pacifism and submission.

Our party has never allowed and will not allow the people of our fatherland to be taken by surprise. It educates us to understand correctly the aggressive nature of imperialism and social-imperialism, to keep our political vigilance ever sharp and raise it to a higher degree, to apply everywhere, including matters of defense, the principle of self-reliance. It is known

that ideopolitical preparedness is the chief indicator of combat strength, since it has to do with the education and training of the human element, which plays the decisive role in warfare. Coping with the difficulties of war and successfully performing the tasks of annihilating the enemy demand of all participants, whether in the front lines or in the rear, high moral qualities, thorough ideo-political preparation, combat ability, great physical stamina, readiness and steel will to meet privations and the great pressures created by war, mastery in exploiting and using efficiently at all times one's opportunities, the situation, the terrain, technology, arms and other means of combat.

This requires the adoption of effective measures to create a thorough understanding of the political-ideological side of the defense problem, a successful organization and the proper results from education and combat training. It cannot be said that these problems are well understood by those party organs and organizations in the army and the field which do not concern themselves and watch step by step to see how the defense tasks are carried out, or which permit defects in training, including some cadres and employees who try to evade their training as combat cadres.

In this field there is room to further deepen the cooperation of the party organizations and the government organs in the field with the party organs and basic organizations and the commands in the army. This cooperation, the party directs, must be broad, not only regarding purely technical and material questions, but also concerning problems to ideo-political and military education, problems relating to the performance of tasks in all aspects of defense.

The high military preparedness of all the people is the most important task in strengthening the defensive capability of the fatherland, and for increasing its combat readiness. In the last few years, all soldiers and cadres, active and reservist, volunteers, pupils and students, inspired and guided by the party's directives, by the historic documents of the fifth and sixth plenums of the party Central Committee and by the programmatic speeches of Comrade Enver Hoxha, have increased their mobilization and elan in assimilating the training program on a higher level. Integrated tactical training exercises and the firing of various arms under difficult terrain and weather conditions most closely resembling those of actual combat have assumed special importance. There are many subunits and units, volunteer bands and individuals that won the title "Exemplary for the 35th anniversary of the founding of the party" in 1976 by their high results. The party organs and organizations in the army and in the field, based on advanced experience and the new demands imposed by the program for this training year, have analyzed and discussed together with the working masses the tasks facing them and the difficulties to be overcome in raising their military mastery for the defense of the fatherland to a still higher level.

The study and assimilation of our popular military art, of the laws of people's warfare, by the cadres and soldiers, active and reservist, popular volunteers, pupils and students, remain the principal duties. The fight to defend the

fatherland demands not only courage, heroism and determination, but also a knowledge of the laws of warfare, the acquisition of practical skills in the use of tactics and arms to annihilate the enemy. This is the reason why the study of our popular military art by all defense structures and the revolutionization of training, its most intensive development under the conditions most similar to those of actual warfare that can be imposed upon us, are one of the principal objectives of the party's work in preparing all the people for defense.

A broad fund of literature analyzing the requirements of our popular military art has not been created. Documents and materials making known the history, tactics and combat actions of our people's army during the Antifascist War of National Liberation have been published. Comrade Enver's works on questions relating to the army and defense, selected works by F. Engels and Lenin, and so forth, have been published. All these materials of great value for political and military education must be made the object of study, understanding and practical analysis by all defense structures.

A good many party organizations, in cooperatives and enterprises in the Shkoder, Korce, Berat, Vlore and other districts have made the study of our popular military art and training tasks a problem for the basic party and worker organizations, discussing and exchanging opinions as to how to improve the work of studying and assimilating that art.

Our socialist order and the party's correct policy have created the conditions and great possibilities for the military training of all the people. But it must not be thought that those possibilities will become reality by themselves, without any effort or exertion. In spite of the generally mobilizing situation, those concepts or tendencies which underrate the intensive development of military training must not be left uncombated either. The party organs and organizations need to concentrate their attention better in combating the erroneous ideas of some workers, among them also communists and cadres, to the effect that "we have done everything," "we know these things and don't have to learn any more," "combat itself will teach us," and so forth. Such concepts create a situation of self-complacency, tranquillity and demobilization and, unless combated, will have negative consequences in military preparedness and for defense. Comrade Enver teaches us that for training to be as it should it must be "easy to understand, deep in thinking and quick in execution." This is achieved when, in the first place, the cadres themselves are subjected to serious and all-around training, when they adhere to setting a personal example, when the training is done not just to kill time, but to perfect something once learned and to learn new things needed for the defense of the fatherland. Manifestations of stereotypy and schematicism not only make training boresome, but do harm to the men's education and training. Defeating the enemy always requires creativity in the forms and content of combat action. And it must not be supposed that these things are learned in combat: they must be learned right now, in training, so as to be available in combat.

The better qualified a cadre and the better he masters the Popular Military Art, the party's military line, the better, the more comprehensible, the more assimilable will be the instruction and training. Therefore, the party organs

and organizations need to watch carefully over the training of the cadres, strive to have them understand correctly and thoroughly their great responsibility for the military training of the subunits and units and to place the commands and staffs of the military units more abreast of this work.

The defense of the fatherland requires the best possible preparation of all defense structures. Each structure has its own important role. The popular volunteer forces play a big role and occupy an important place in our defense system. The alien concepts manifested in underestimation of these forces-- "oh well, they're volunteers: let them do what they will," "you can't teach them anything more," and the like--are contrary to the great Leninist principle of defense preparedness of the entire nation. Such concepts must be combated, for they have a negative effect on the training of volunteers and on the coordination of their combat actions with the forces of the People's Army.

In the field of defense preparation of the entire nation, great importance has accrued even now, in peacetimes, to ideological, organizational and administrative measures to insure mobilization in due time of all the human, economic and material resources of the country to meet an attack, the serious situations and great difficulties that would be imposed on us by a possible enemy aggression. In this respect, as in other fields of defense, irresponsible attitudes and an all-round failure to be ready to act at once are to be condemned.

The imperialist-revisionist encirclement and the danger of military aggression from that quarter are real. It threatens us in a practical sense: hence, the stronger we keep our economy and the defense of the fatherland, the harder it will be for the enemy to undertake any attack against our Socialist People's Republic, and the surer will be our victory over him.

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DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH CARE IN FIVE-YEAR PLAN DISCUSSED

Tirana SHENDETESIA POPULLORE in Albanian No 1. (Jan-Feb-Mar) 77 pp 3-6

[Unsigned article: "Let Us Mobilize All Our Energies to Achieve the Objectives of the Sixth Five-Year Plan in the Matter of Protection of the People's Health"]

[Text] The Seventh Congress of the Albanian Workers Party opened up broad prospects for further all-round progress for the sector devoted to the protection and strengthening of the people's health, as for the whole life of our country. Having studied and gone deeply into the materials of the Congress and especially the historic speech delivered to it by Comrade Enver Hoxha, the health organs in the center and the districts have analyzed the principal tasks set for them in achieving still better results in their future work.

Our health has made great progress from one five-year plan to the other. The Fifth Five-Year Plan period has been chiefly a period of further strengthening of preventive medicine, of stabilization and expansion of the health institutions both in town and in country, the establishment of a whole army of physicians and midwife-nurses in the rural areas, particularly to strengthen health service to mother and child; in the Fifth Five-Year Plan the groundwork was laid for a more systematic protection of the environment against pollution; there was a general decline in nearly all nosologies and the number of cases of contagious diseases; there was a rise in the level of work of a scientific research character in many fields of health.

The health workers, like all other workers in our country, have set to work to perform to the best of their ability the great tasks facing them in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. The directives of the Seventh Party Congress on the Sixth Five-Year Plan for the development of the economy and culture of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania for 1976-1980 state: "Developing and expanding health service still more, especially in the countryside, we must strive to enforce preventive measures and popular hygiene, improve the service for the preservation of the health of mother and child in order to avoid infectious diseases, as well as to elevate sanitary education. The health institutions must achieve a further improvement in service to the sick and increase the efficacy of medical measures."

The development and expansion of health service, especially in the countryside, during the Sixth Five-Year Plan will be watched over in both its aspects: prophylactic-hygienic and curative.

With regard to the first aspect, the hygienic-sanitary measures will be expanded and strengthened by giving a greater impetus to the further hygienization of the country. The experience accumulated in this field, especially since the Plenum of June 1963 and the 11th Plenum of the Party Central Committee, is a sound basis for vitalizing still further the movement for hygienization in all directions, especially in the countryside. The initiatives that have been and are being taken by the health workers of Mirdite, Tirana, and so forth are aimed at improving hygiene, making more efficient use of the help and support of the mass organizations, the rural intelligentsia, and especially the educators. The objectives are clear: clean dwellings; well-ordered kitchens; hygienic cesspools; the final removal of livestock, of personal farmyards, to collective stables; provision of drinking water; good functioning of socio-cultural projects, especially baths and laundries, ovens, nurseries, pavement of streets, and establishment of small parks within the village; further improvement of personal hygiene, mass and family nutrition, and so forth.

As regards the second aspect: the existing institutions will be utilized with due intensity, the itinerant service in the health centers will be strengthened and expanded, and the stomatological and pharmaceutical services will be expanded. The majority of cadres graduating from the medical faculty and the secondary medical schools in this five-year plan will be located in the countryside.

In enforcing the preventive and mass hygiene measures, efforts will be made to cause the idea of prophylaxis to penetrate still deeper into all branches of medicine. A further impetus, on the basis of the experience gained in the last 2 or 3 years, will be given to the protection of the environment against pollution; studies will be made regarding the discharge of the products of the chemical, petroleum, metallurgical, textile and other industries into the air, the ground and the water, and the activity of the sanitary organs will be better coordinated with the government departments concerned. Scientific sessions are planned in various areas of the country, which will set the pace for an aktiv of a national character for problems of environmental protection.

Medical service in the work centers will also undergo a good development. The work of the physicians will be expanded and deepened with regard to the prevention of occupational diseases, with emphasis on the systematic dispensarization of certain diseases which most concern our physicians in these fields. In particular, a study will be made of pneumoconiosis and occupational skin diseases. Special importance will be attached to the post-university qualification of physicians working in the work hygiene and occupational disease sector.

The fight against contagious diseases will occupy an important place in the work of all types of health institutions. Among these diseases, special attention will be devoted to viral hepatitis. By the end of the Sixth Five-

Year Plan extensive work will have been done to eradicate dermatomycosis. With the organizational-technical strengthening of the laboratories for contagious gastro-intestinal diseases, cases of these diseases will be followed more closely, with special consideration for the detection and treatment of bacillus carriers.

The Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology will improve in all respects the indices of the production of vaccines and other immunobiological preparations, deepening and expanding the process of lyophilization or freeze-drying for those preparations with which it is possible. The Institute, together with the directorates of hygiene and epidemiology in the districts, will expand its study activity in the sphere of labor hygiene, nutrition, communal and school hygiene, by organizing scientific sessions and symposiums and by publishing studies for the various hygiene and epidemiology sectors.

The improvement and expansion of mother and child health service will be the chief concern for the health workers of the country. With the very favorable indicators that we have achieved thus far in the great expansion of health institutions and the increase in the sector's health cadres, all the possibilities have been created for us to achieve, by the end of the five-year plan, a great improvement in all the indicators, especially the demographic ones, and particularly the index of infant mortality. More intensive work will be done especially in those districts where this mortality is highest, by taking appropriate organizational and technical measures, further strengthening the medical service and requiring and obtaining cooperation with the rural mass organizations.

Scientific research will be further deepened in various areas of the country on dystrophy and rickets; generalizations will be made on the physical development of children of different ages, beginning with the first year; and so forth. Special attention will be paid to the problems of perinatal mortality, premature birth, resuscitation service, and so on.

In view of the admonition of Comrade Enver to the Seventh Party Congress to bring about a greater development in such sciences as mathematics, physics, genetics, physiology, in the framework of general genetics and in cooperation with other sectors as well, the first studies will be made in the field of human genetics as well.

In the curative medicine sector during the current five-year plan more thorough studies will be made on general morbidity in both town and country and, on the basis of those studies, conclusions will be drawn about the further development of this branch of medicine.

During this five-year plan too, there will be a further deepening of itinerant work, home medical assistance, urgent aid, and so forth. There will be more intensified treatment of patients with gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, nervous, endocrinal and psychic disorders, with contagious diseases, and so forth. Studies will be organized on a broad scale regarding hypertension

and myocardial infarcts and concerning renal calculosis (kidney stones); these studies will be reported in scientific sessions and special symposiums. Scientific studies will also be made in other branches of medicine such as surgery, neuropsychiatry, otorhinolaryngology, obstetrics, subjects of a theoretical nature, and so forth.

During the five-year plan a continual effort will be made to further raise the quality of work and the services on the basis of more intensive and systematic work by the higher, medium and lower level medical cadres for their ideological education and their technical-professional qualifications, and a persistent fight will be waged against petty-bourgeois manifestations, intellectualism and bureaucratism.

Steps will also be taken in our pharmaceutical industry. The range of the products of this industry will be increased as a result of the more thorough knowledge of our medicinal plants and their processing on a more scientific and advanced technical basis. During the five-year plan the first antibiotics with an Albanian trademark will be put into use. Consideration will be given to the possibility of exporting medicinal plants in the form of processed drugs, not just in their natural state. In cooperation with the ministries of light industry and commerce, consideration will be given to the possibility of producing domestically leucoplast, bottle stoppers for various purposes, medicine droppers, and so forth.

During this five-year plan efforts will be made to learn, collect, select and test in laboratory and clinic many methods of popular medicine both by the Institute of Popular Medicine itself and by the groups working on this problem in the districts.

The plant for the production of electromedical apparatus will also make efforts to produce new apparatuses and spare parts that have hitherto been imported.

Health propaganda in all its aspects will also undergo a greater expansion. It will be organized better in all its links, will have more small, illustrated publications, more radio and television health propaganda, more brochures for the people. There will also be further development of the publication of books for the medical cadres, such as special studies, monographs, magazines and medical bulletins, and so forth.

From what has been said above it may be seen that the objectives to be attained by our health service by the end of the current five-year plan are not easy, but they will be attained and will become a reality because the health workers, under the guidance of the party headed by Comrade Enver, will mobilize all their energies to place them in the service of the people's health.

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ALBANIA

BRIEFS

MEMORIAL STONE DEDICATION--A memorial stone devoted to the life and activity of Dom Nikoll Kacorri [a Catholic priest], former deputy premier of the Albanian Government headed by Ismail Gemali in Vlore in 1912, was unveiled at the Krej-Lure village in Diber District. The inauguration ceremony was attended by cooperativists, young people, pioneers, relatives and contemporaries of the patriot. Following the inauguration of the memorial stone, those present visited the families of the patriot's relatives. The day before yesterday, a scientific session devoted to the 60th anniversary of the death of Dom Nikoll Kacorri and the 55th anniversary of the opening of the first Albanian school in the area was held at the house of culture of the village of Lure. A number of papers on the life, childhood and activity of this patriot were read at the session. The session was also addressed by Rakip Danice, secretary of the Diber District Party Committee. A rich artistic program was staged for those present. [Text] [Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 31 May 77 p 1 AU]

CSO: 2100

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

RUMORS OF DISUNITY INSIDE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT SCORED

Prague ZIVOT STRANY in Czech No 9, 25 Apr 77 pp 51-52

/Article by Boris Lejbzon: "Independence and Unity of Communist Parties"/

/Text/ The independence of the communist parties as an alternative to their international unity is a "discovery" with which the bourgeois press cannot part. Why this attempt for such a speculative contradiction and what truth is there in it?

The history of the communist movement proves that the communist parties have always been the revolutionary parties of the working class, linked together by the bonds of internationalist unity.

This class revolutionary character of the communist movement, which is the basis of its unity, was confirmed once again at a conference of the European communist and workers parties which was held in Berlin last June. The conference unanimously adopted a Final Document in which it stated: "The communist and workers parties attending the conference confirm once again that they reject all policies and world views that basically mean the subordination of the working class to the capitalist system."

The internationalism of the communist movement was always characterized by its effectiveness and by the fact that it was not only publicly declared but that it always had a clear political direction whose aim was the solution of topical tasks which require a common viewpoint and common struggle. Also today the effectiveness of internationalism lies in the fact that the communists concentrate their efforts on the struggle for the solution of all challenging problems. Hence they consistently struggle for peace, democracy and social progress. All this is in the interest of the working class, the democratic forces and the people's masses the world over.

Voluntary cooperation of fraternal parties and their comradely solidarity has old and deep roots. Internationalism--an inseparable part of the ideology of the working class--came into being as a reflection of objective reality. The domination of capitalism has an international character and the struggle of the working people against domestic or foreign capital

naturally leads to a joint international liberation movement. Internationalism reflects a natural process of a historical development which leads to the rapprochement among nations and the strengthening of their economic and cultural relations. Consequently, it can never become outdated, but on the contrary becomes richer and richer as far as its content is concerned. The defense of democratic freedoms and the resistance to reaction, fascism and racism require that this struggle be led jointly and in unity.

Although the communist movement has an internationalist character, it develops within the national framework. The most immediate arena of each and every Marxist-Leninist party is its own country and the party is accountable for its activity to the working people whose interest it expresses. However, the conditions of development in individual countries differ. All countries have their own peculiarities and in their historical development have achieved different levels. From this necessarily stem certain differences among communist parties. As long ago as 1908, V.I. Lenin wrote: "The international revolutionary movement of the proletariat does not develop and cannot develop in the same way and in the same forms in all countries."

The internationalization of social development and the growth of the international factor in the life of every nation obviously do not result in the levelling of countries, but relate to their versatility and specific differences. The communist parties therefore cannot follow a general stereotype but must look for forms of the struggle which would best correspond to local conditions.

The great victories achieved by socialism, the disintegration of the colonial system, and the achievements of the workers and democratic movement have changed the balance of power in the world to such an extent that there have appeared new conditions for the struggle for socialism and have opened new possibilities for the tactics stressing the path of social progress. The communist parties therefore rightly state that these possibilities can be best used only when each and every party is independent and itself decides its policy according to social and economic conditions and national characteristics of its own country.

The voluntary international solidarity of equal and independent parties strengthens each party and the international communist movement. The dialectic singleness of international unity and independence is a source of great possibilities for the growing role of the parties as active political forces in the national life of their own countries. It also makes it possible for these parties to jointly evaluate new phenomena in the present world and to conduct a joint struggle.

This unity plays an ever-increasing role. And this is the reason for the fear on the part of all anticommunist forces. The bourgeoisie, as is well known, started to fight communism long before the development of communist ideology and before the adherents of communism had a chance to organize

themselves. The pages of Marx' and Engels' "Communist Manifesto" eloquently list everything the communists were blamed for some 130 years ago. The directors of anticommunist campaigns have not relinquished scare tactics aimed at credulous people and even today they use primitive fabrications concerning communism. The stronger the communist movement becomes, the more refined and guileful the tactics of anticommunism.

Anticommunist propaganda is especially interested in everything which is related to the unity of the communist and workers parties. This proves that the bourgeois ideologues put their stakes on the expectations of disagreements among certain communist parties.

When L. I. Brezhnev spoke on behalf of the CPSU at the Berlin Conference about the strict adherence of equality and independence of each and every party, the bourgeois press pretended not to hear that. The bourgeois press also does not say that the idea of the equality of each party and its independence is directly stressed in the program of the CPSU. However, whenever the same idea is stated by representatives of other communist parties, the heaven breaks loose and the bourgeois press insists that in such a statement one has to look for a secret meaning which shows the existence of "insoluble contradictions" within the communist movement. In order to strengthen such insinuations, assertions are made that somebody (naturally the CPSU) tries to create a united organizational center of the communist movement and that the way out of this "crisis situation" is Eurocommunism. (Anticommunism thus offers its own recipes to Marxist-Leninist parties.) This flimsy invention appeared at the time when there was a real possibility that the Italian Communists would enter the government and when their achievements opened the same prospects to the French Communist Party. The threats of the leaders of numerous capitalist countries that Italy will be denied economic aid if the Communist's enter the government were accompanied by praise for the advantages of Eurocommunism. In the past, similar assiduity was used in propagating "national communism." However, since it has become obvious that the plan with "national communism" ended in bankruptcy, a new attempt is being made to persuade the European communist parties to create their own "European communism." In other words, they should give up their Marxist-Leninist beliefs in order to win "respectability."

Nothing which deals with the internal life of the international communist movement escapes the attention of anticommunism. The eternal class interest of the enemies of the workers movement has now become more pronounced. Hence the bourgeois press willingly magnifies any statement made by the communists in different countries which may serve as a pretext for stressing their restraint vis a vis other fraternal parties or indicating their underestimation of the significance of the historical experiences of the revolutionary struggle and the revolutionary theory. The enemies of communism do their best to persuade the communist parties to "reevaluate" their past because they are well aware that the repudiation of the past means to give up one's "raison d'etre"--namely, the Marxist-Leninist attitude.

The unity of the communist parties is being developed in the forms corresponding to the present situation. The independent parties are voluntarily uniting in the interest of international cooperation. This unity has firm foundations because the independence of the parties is not limited to the fact they themselves decide their own policy. For a Marxist-Leninist party the meaning of independence is much broader. It includes in the first place class independence, the ability to face bourgeois and reformist ideology and to consistently and creatively subscribe to the principles of Marxism-Leninism in the solution of all complex and specific questions of everyday life. Such independence is a reliable path to the successes of each party and the entire communist movement.

1277

CSO: 2400

POLITICS DEEMED FUNCTION OF PARISH COUNCILS

East Berlin BEGEGNUNG in German Vol 17, No 4, Apr 77 pp 9-11

[Report on a poll conducted by BEGEGNUNG among members of parish councils and other committed Catholics on the subject: "Does Politics Belong in the Parish Council?"]

[Text] By now parish councils have become an inseparable part of the life of our church. In various ways they have lent impetus to the life of the parish, even if in some places there are still unresolved questions in the relations between the parish priest, the parish council and the parish. The activity of parish councils naturally is centered on pastoral and charity matters, but there exist variations in the delimitation of the subjects and categories of tasks. Some parish councils consider themselves merely an organ for internal church matters, while others think that they must look beyond the "church tower horizon" and include such social and political questions in their deliberations as affect the faithful in their civic as well as religious life.

It seems to us that this wider horizon of a parish council benefits both parish and society, particularly since especially in the social sphere the members of a parish exceed denominational limits and also cooperate with non-religious social circles. Beyond that, the chances are that in many places the calls and admonitions of the pope, Vaticanum II and the GDR Pastoral Synod for active commitment to peace and justice through the activity of parish councils ought to have an even greater concrete effect. By way of a public exchange of experience, we therefore arranged among members of parish councils and other committed Catholics a poll on the subject: "Does Politics Belong in the Parish Church?" Following are some of the first answers by those polled.

Hellmut Brosch, director of materials supply at the Schmalkalden VEB Nougat and Marzipan Factory, kreis assembly deputy, member of the parish council:

All members of our parish council are part of the public and social scene and are confronted daily with political events. One cannot work for the

benefit of society, and make decisions accordingly, during the day and then perhaps put on blinkers at a session of the parish council in the evening. After all, one must account for the decisions made there to the parish--i.e., to the faithful, who of course are likewise working people--and the decisions must correspond to the social requirements. There is simply no room for an opposite course.

Medizinalrat [Senior Medical Officer] Dr Ernst Hoefer, medical specialist general practitioner [sic], member of a liturgical commission, organist, Griez:

The question of whether politics belong in the parish council must be answered with an unequivocal yes. But one must note just as unambiguously that so far--at least where we are--some parish councils have still been displaying considerable political abstinence. What you have indicated is actually the case: activity has been centered on pastoral, charity, internal church matters.

There soon will be new elections to the parish councils. Looking at the candidates individually, I find that they are honorable, good and active Catholics throughout, but there is hardly a single one among them of whom I could say that he has also been active in the social sphere and has taken a clear public stand on political questions. Thus it happens that many a member of the parish lacks something important--the tie between the Gospel and everyday socialist life, the decided agreement between Christian duty and civic duty. Why should the Gospel be limited to ethical-moral life? Ought not church counseling rather amount to universal aid in life?

When a patient comes to me, he expects advice from me, assistance in restoring his health, in harmonizing his personality. Advice and aid coming from the church similarly ought to be directed toward harmonization of the personality, of body and soul. A Catholic living in a beautiful, well-ordered socialist house, to whose beautification and greater comfort he is contributing, must also receive support from the church in following the house rules.

There are many ways of commitment to our society and our state. These should be pointed out time and again.

Christians preach p e a c e; pax vobiscum [peace be with you] is an old Christian greeting. The fact that socialism means peace can be demonstrated anew every day. Let us then walk this proper path.

Christians want social j u s t i c e. No one can dispute the fact that our state is implementing social justice; there is no need at all for a comparison with capitalist states to realize this. Let us then go along on the path of our state.

Christians exercise c h a r i t y. Is not charity being exercised in our state to a far greater extent that would be possible in the ecclesiastical

sphere? I will call to mind only the sociopolitical measures, the improvement in the case of older citizens and so forth. What opportunities of cooperation for active Christians!

All social policy is closely tied to the results of economic policy. Plan fulfillment is therefore likewise our responsibility; looked at it this way, participation in competition represents a Christian deed. It is therefore a good thing for our children to be educated to become socialist personalities; religious education, on the other hand, is a matter for the parental home and the church.

Would it not be progressive if parish councils worked out concepts along those lines? In some places, people are quickly inclined to include "beat" music in the church area and to show themselves "progressive" in this (doubtful) way, despite the fact that older people cannot stand it and that it certainly does not help to balance the personality. True progress, however--decided agreement between civic duty and Christian duty--is missed sorely by many.

Regina Seichter, master of chemistry, member of the parish council, Muldenstein:

Your question "Does Politics Belong in the Parish Council?" I can only answer positively. Committed Christians (also people's representatives, a council member and CDU members) are active in our parish council, and from the start we handle matters in such a way as to view church questions and problems in connection with social and political developments. Today it is impossible to discuss purely intrachurch problems--outside social and political contexts. We have also always taken this point of view vis-a-vis higher church authority. We are of the opinion that lay members are the component of the church which must particularly commit itself in the world.

Gunter Windrich, engineer, former parish council member, Kirchmoeser:

I am of the opinion that a better Christian is not he who, having retreated behind church walls, is active in only a small known circle and merely prays for peace and justice in the world, but rather he who takes seriously God's mission which says "Go out into all the world." It follows from this that, in addition to the main pastoral and charity points, for example questions of coexistence in the plant and in the residential area should also be discussed in the parish council. Service to one's fellow man, after all, is also demonstrated in the trade union work of the plant, in activity in the residential area, in work in People's Solidarity and in the various organization and social bodies. It is here that the Catholic can come out and take a stand for his fellow man. Further, we take additionally an unequivocally political position (though some people are not aware of it) in our donations for the development of African countries--e.g. in Algeria, through the Episcopal Aid "The World in Need."

There are initial indications of ecumenical cooperation. Thus, in Kirchmoeser, a course in home care of the sick was organized jointly with the Protestant community. A development of cooperation beyond this, in my opinion, will, however, be long and difficult--also because the church, as happened in the latest pastoral letter of our bishops, advises even against marriages between Christians of different denominations.

Personally, I consider it a matter of urgency that parish councils time and again also address questions of the social coresponsibility of the faithful--on the one hand, in order to encourage Catholics to be active as regards love of peace and one's fellow man and, on the other hand, in order to show the church that lay members are ready for cooperation.

Manfred Stierl, engineering diplomate, member of the Sangerhausen Parish Council, member of the Pastoral Synod of the Jurisdictional Districts in the GDR (1973-1975):

"Does politics belong in the parish council?" Though the question is put in simplified form, I would like to answer it with a straight and simple yes. Again in simplified terms, politics also comprises activities for shaping the relationships within society. We Catholic Christians are part of this society. Now, the question is, do we have to deal in the parish council with problems exceeding the scope of the parish or the church and affecting the broader society--occasionally also only indirectly?

The Pastoral Synod, particularly in its decisions "Service of the Church for Reconciliation and Peace" and "The Christian in the World of Labor," drew clear conclusions for Catholic Christians which are mainly to be realized outside the parishes. This is true, for instance, of Paragraphs 28 ff and 32 ff, respectively, of the "peace document." Where else if not in the parish council must the implementation of these decisions in the actual life of parish members be discussed and directed? If the parish council does not do so, the whole thing would be a waste of paper.

Unfortunately, as far as the two mentioned documents and the decision "Faith Today" are concerned, the Pastoral Synod was very sparing in its concrete pastoral instructions or recommendations to the parish councils. In these three decisions, according to my summary, there are in fact only two recommendations; one deals with internal church problems (Faith, 47), and the other--which I cite here as precise support for my yes to your question--recommends that the parish councils devote themselves to problems of the choice of profession or trade (World of Labor, 41). But in addition such recommendations as, e.g., to "see to it that topical concerns of the realization of peace" are included "during the selection and formulation of intercessory prayers" (Peace, 50) affect the parish councils at least indirectly.

It goes without saying that it is not to be expected for the "Skeleton Rules of the Councils" to answer your questions with a yes, for the true task of

parish councils should be of a pastoral nature. I believe, however, that sometimes these things cannot be separated and that the Pastoral Synod has also indicated spheres for this.

Of course, instead of answering your question from the point of view of the objective, as I have done above, one can also answer it, or complement the answer, from the point of view of actual practice. What parish council did not occupy itself at the time with the legal provisions on abortion? What parish council would not discuss such problems as derive from the provisions of Article 20, Paragraph 1, of our constitution and the ideological orientation of our educational system? People of Christian faith (to quote a GDR Radio commentator's statement before the last elections) are certainly called on more strongly today than in the past to attest to their faith with deeds in the daily life of society. I therefore also regard it as normal if such people get together to talk about the tensions deriving from being tied to Christ, on the one hand, and the claim of Marxism-Leninism in state and social norms, on the other. That this does not become "beer table politics" but service to church and society should also be a task of the parish council.

8790

CSO: 2300

WORKER MILITIA EQUIPMENT DESCRIBED

Frankfurt/Main SOLDAT UND TECHNIK in German No 5, May 77 p 264-265

[Text] The so-called GDR enterprise militias, at one time designated to protect the state enterprises against "western insurgents," have completed their remarkable transformation, according to NATO information. They were quietly trained and equipped with the help of the trade unions and the party as high-quality units of the second levy. No longer does defense of fixed installations come first in all tasks but direct fighting at the side of the NVA--as planned from the very beginning. Thus the detachments [Hundertschaften] have received heavy equipment and an extensive combat training. At present they are directly in a position to take over infantry missions at the side of the "main official comrades and cooperative fighters." So far, 210 bezirk reserve battalions have been activated that have to exercise not only on weekends but also during working hours without regard for production and frequently under alert conditions.

Problems of loss of working time as a result of frequent military duty were arranged meanwhile in such a fashion that the crews work voluntary shifts as compensation for "their" fighters. The trade union has undertaken to guarantee that no loss of production occurs in the individual plants. The detachments [Hunderschaften] are partially motorized, have their assembly and security rooms, fulfill important tactical functions in flank protection and security of rear areas. The emphasis of the militias rests no longer on the militia character but on functions of the second wave, which must be available quickly if it wants to support and relieve the active troops. In addition to equipping with technical weapons, training, which is attended to by experienced NVA officers and noncommissioned officers, belongs to the fulfillment of this task. The Soviet materials policy in the redemption of older combat ordnance and its replacement with modern weapons, which has been followed by the West for a long time, has been cleared up: a large part of the combat ordnance went to the plant militia-battalions which now have at their disposal 485 tanks of type T-54 and T-55 as well as 600 four-barreled 23 mm antiaircraft guns and numerous Sagger antitank missiles.

In addition, there are 412 SPW [Schuetzenpanzerwagen--armored personnel carrier] and 2,000 cross-country capable trucks from army stocks. For the rest, there are on hand more than 8,500 howitzers, 20,000 machine guns and many thousands of bursting charges. All in all, this is the complete combat equipment for a field unit, which one must take seriously. This levy, nevertheless, never appears on the agenda of a MBFR [Mutual and balanced force reduction] session. It forms a "black contingent" of armed power in Central Europe that should not be underestimated.

8824

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

BORDER MEASURES, EQUIPMENT OUTLINED

Frankfurt/Main SOLDAT UND TECHNIK in German No 5, May 77 p 265

[Text] The GDR demarcation line opposite West Germany has been extended systematically in the course of recent years into a zone to prevent escape with a comprehensive, deeply-staggered system of obstacles, fortifications and traps. The crucial points of this improvement of these obstacle installations on the GDR side are in

- the further installation and securing of spring guns, which, for the most part, are replacing expensive mine fields,
- the extension of the defense sector fence and of the single row of the metal grid fence,
- the erection of dog runs.

The GDR obstacle and security installations have presently attained the following state:

Length of the metal grid fence	1,083 km (1975: 998 km)
of the double barbed wire fence	316 km (1975: 396 km)
of the defense sector fence	788 km (1975: 630 km)
of the mine fields	491 km (1975: 593 km)
of the self-firing installations	248 km (1975: 197 km)
of the concrete obstacle wall/vision blinding	8 km (1975: 8 km)
of the vehicle obstacle trench	739 km (1975: 755 km)
of which concrete reinforced	478 km (1975: 446 km)
of light barriers	212 km (1975: 107 km)
Number of earthen bunkers	939 (1975: 933)
of which concrete-finished	717 (1975: 726)
of observation towers	392 (1975: 498)
of which of concrete or masonry	269 (1975: 365)
of which of wood or steel	123 (1975: 133)
of observation stands	67 (1975: 90)
of dog runs	224 km
of dogs	1,075
of emplaced mines	491 km (est.) 1.2 million

For the defense of the border along the Elbe, the GDR Border Troops and the GDR Waterway Police have employed as many as 20 boats. Near the border on the inland lakes of the GDR, four border security boats were employed. To better monitor the border area and to create a sight and shoot field, the GDR has carried on demolition in the 500 km restricted areas. Altogether, in the most recent period, 60 residential or industrial areas were torn down or burned down. By means of these inhuman barricade measures, to which belongs a 10 to 20 km deeper control area which, even by residents, may only be entered with a special permit, the number of escapees from the GDR has declined considerably.

8824

CSO: 2300

EAST GERMANY

NUMBER OF NVA DEFECTIVES REDUCED TO 17 IN 1976

Frankfurt/Main SOLDAT UND TECHNIK in German No 5, May 77 p 265

[Text] Only 17 NVA soldiers including an air force captain and a first lieutenant from the state security service (MFS)--8 less than in 1975--were able to escape to the Federal Republic in 1976 across the mine fields and steel grid fence. All together since 1963, more than 1,800 NVA soldiers up to lieutenant-colonel have chosen freedom in this fashion. During the period up to several years ago between 80 and 130 still escaped annually; since then the numbers have constantly decreased. As the chief reasons for this trend, the captain who fled in 1976 named the information gap that arose as a result of the strictly-maintained information barrier--especially by the border troops of the National People's Army, the SED radio propaganda and the "red light radiation," as the political instruction in the NVA is ironically called. Ever-recurrent themes here are said to be the allegedly poor situation in the economic and labor markets in the Federal Republic.

Add to this the known hostile climate in the border troops which is stirred up with painful exactitude and is stamped with deep mutual mistrust, and which previously always produced the most deserters because these soldiers knew their way about exactly in the extremely staggered system of obstacles. Thus in the two-man patrols, on principle, a soldier who was considered to be absolutely reliable was always teamed with an unreliable one. How soldiers of the NVA border troops succeeded occasionally, nevertheless, in planning and organizing their escape is shown by this example. Two soldiers of the same border company had become acquainted in the hospital months before their escape, developed a trust in each other, and then discussed everything in great detail. After returning to their unit, one of them again and again put his reliability and faith to the communist line to the test until one day both were sent out together on two-man patrol and could escape.

8824

CSO: 2300

PARTICIPATION OF ALL STATES IN INTERNATIONAL LIFE

Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 17 Apr 77 p 6

[Article by B. Radu: "The Solving of Contemporary Problems Requires the Active Participation, With Equal Rights, of All States, Big, Middle-Sized and Small"]

[Text] Nicolae Ceausescu: "The solving of the extremely complex problems that confront mankind requires the establishment of new, democratic relations in the world arena and the active participation, under equal conditions, of all states in international life--regardless of their territory's or population's size, their economic or military power, or their social order."

Making a thorough, deeply scientific analysis of the political situation and the evolutionary trends of the contemporary world and reaffirming socialist Romania's position on the chief problems of international life, the speech presented by the secretary general of the RCP, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, at the recent joint session of the highest party and state forums brought out again the necessity and significance of the democratization of interstate relations and the expansion of all states' role in and contribution to world political life.

The active participation, with equal rights, without any sort of discrimination, of all states in solving the problems of the present day is not a desire of a subjective order, is not a conjunctural requirement, but is imposed as an objective, lawlike necessity, resulting from the interests of each particular nation and of the entire international community, and represents one of the essential links in the building of new interstate relations and, in general, a new world.

It is known what international relations were like in the historical past, when many countries were under the domination of the great empires of the times, lacking the most elementary rights, and when it was considered, arbitrarily, that the great powers were invested with priority attributes--and the others had no say in international affairs. These practices and ideas,

direct expressions of "power politics," led to the appearance of "international directorates" and to the establishment in international life of the monopoly of a few great powers that had arrogated to themselves the right to decide on all matters on which the destiny of the peoples decisively depended. The consequences of these imperialist practices were of the most evil sort. It is enough for us to mention in this regard the long string of dictates of Hitlerism that culminated in the outbreak of World War II, with its entire procession of misfortunes.

The deep revolutionary, social and national changes occurring in the postwar period--the appearance of the new socialist states and the formation of the socialist world system, the disintegration of colonialism and the appearance of scores of independent states, and the unprecedented growth of the revolutionary, progressive and independent forces--had as a result the considerable reduction of the sphere and possibilities of action of the imperialist policy of domination and dictation. Each nation's will to be free, be master of its destiny and of its national wealth, to organize its life in accordance with its own aspirations and interests, and to protect and consolidate its national sovereignty and independence is asserting itself with unprecedented force in today's world. There were thus created premises for a radical change in the relations between states, for their democratization, so as to provide to each one the possibility of actively participating in international life, of serving its interests, and of having its own say on everything that concerns the fate of the respective nation and of all mankind. Now, according to the conception of our party, the essence of the process of democratization on an international level consists precisely of this.

By virtue of these considerations, our party and state continually stress the absolute necessity of the active participation of all states--regardless of size, order, economic and military potential, or level of development--in the discussion and resolution of the major contemporary problems and in all international life. The principle of all states' equality in rights constitutes one of the basic principles of international law, with detente, peace, the security of the peoples, and their independent development depending directly on the strict respecting of it.

Of course--and this is stressed again in the speech of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu--our country not only is not ignoring but, on the contrary, understands well the role that goes in the international arena to the big countries, which have a special responsibility in solving the problems that confront the present world. At the same time, our party and country consider that a more and more important role in solving the problems goes to the other countries--small and middle-sized states, developing countries and nonaligned states.

This judgment starts from a string of incontestable realities. First, the fact that the number of these countries is about 150--that is, the overwhelming majority of the states of the world--is indicative of their

importance. Likewise, with regard to population, they represent about two-thirds of all mankind. At the same time, they contain vast natural resources, some having a high level of economic development. Most of these states, stepping onto the path of independent development, refuse to remain any longer on "the periphery of history," have transformed themselves from "objects" into "subjects" of international law, and are manifesting themselves as active factors of political life, bringing a new, bracing air to the world arena. Whether it is a question of countries that appeared during the postwar period on the political map of the world, as a result of the breakup of colonialism, or of countries that, although they acquired their independence many decades ago, continued to be economically enslaved by monopolies--these countries are deeply and directly interested in the permanent abolition of colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, all forms of domination, and in the creation of favorable international conditions for being able to utilize their resources in the interest of their own development and of the elimination of the lags with regard to the advanced countries. Hence, the anti-imperialist positions that--of course, with different intensities and with a different frequency--the majority of these states adopt; hence, their inherent inclination toward a new policy, of respect for national independence and sovereignty, of maintenance and strengthening of the general peace and security, and of establishment of a new economic and political order. Of course, among the countries in this category there are also some antidemocratic states, of a clearly reactionary political orientation, true fulcrums of imperialism. But this can be regarded as an exceptional aspect that does not change the general characterization, does not apply to the overwhelming majority--perhaps, more aptly put, to almost all--of the small and middle-sized states, and does not change the significance of their important, progressive role.

In accordance with their vital interests, in their majority, the small and middle-sized states have demonstrated their effective capacity to contribute to the positive developments in the world, by means of their constructive positions and actions. The active role, the greater role of these states is not a fiction or a mere desire--although for the moment it is possible to speak more of the beginning of a process. This role has found itself, practically, effectively, a number of materializations. It is thus known that many small and middle-sized states, carrying out intense activity within the United Nations and other international organizations and bodies, have made an important contribution to the work of codifying the norms and principles of international law and to the preparation of the Charter of the Economic Rights and Obligations of the States and of the documents concerning the new economic order, the definition of aggression, and the abolition of colonialism and of the policy of apartheid.

The common interests in the affirmation of the new principles of interstate relations and in the provision of peace have stimulated the development of the movement of the nonaligned countries, which, by means of the positions maintained and the proposals advanced on a number of vital international problems, has asserted itself as one of the great progressive, democratic

forces of today's world, one of the important components of the anti-imperialist world front. For instance, 103 countries, with a population of more than 2 billion people, participated in the 5th high-level session of the nonaligned countries, which was held in Colombo. The documents adopted during the meetings organized by the movement of the nonaligned, including at the recent meeting in Delhi of the Bureau of Coordination, firmly proclaim the determination of the movement of nonalignment to strive, together with other progressive social forces, for the freedom and sovereignty of the peoples, for all states' equality in rights, for the universal application of the principles of peaceful coexistence, for economic development and social progress, for complete decolonization, and for the improvement of the structure and effectiveness of the United Nations.

Regarding the developing countries--about 110 countries, which contain more than 70 percent of the world's population, mostly nonaligned countries--their role asserted itself on many planes, especially with regard to the establishment of the new international economic order. "The Group of the 77," to which all the developing countries belong, was, during the sessions in Lima, Manila, and Ciudad de Mexico, the initiator of important documents concerning industrial development and economic cooperation between the developing countries and the developed ones and between the developing countries, which represents essential contributions to the establishment of the principles and methods of action for forging the new economic order.

As is known, socialist Romania has noted the democratization of international relations as a leading objective of its foreign policy, has continually asserted that the middle-sized and small states have to play an important role in the contemporary world, and, through its entire activity on an international level, characterized by vitality and a spirit of initiative, has made an ever greater contribution to the positive developments toward détente and international collaboration.

A socialist country and, at the same time, a developing country, Romania has, like the other developing countries, like the nonaligned countries, the same aspirations to accelerate economic development, to eliminate the gaps between states, and to establish a new economic order in the world. Hence, the constant concern for the development of relations with these countries, strongly stimulated by the many meetings and talks of Chairman Nicolae Ceausescu with the chiefs of state and other leaders of these countries. As recognition of the constructive character of its foreign policy, Romania was admitted into "the Group of the 77" and was invited to participate in the activities of the nonaligned countries--which created possibilities of increasing its contribution to the achievement of the major goals of mankind.

It is not possible, of course, to ignore the fact that the process of democratization of international relations is still encountering obstacles and difficulties on the part of the imperialist, reactionary forces, which cannot accustom themselves to the idea of full equality between states. Consequently, it is especially necessary to combine the efforts of the small

and middle-sized countries, of the developing countries, of the nonaligned states, of all the peoples, of all the democratic and progressive forces, to fulfill the great wishes of mankind.

With regard to it, socialist Romania--as the speech pointed out again--is determined, in the spirit of the orientations of the 11th RCP Congress, to manifest itself from now on as an active factor in international life, to work with even greater vigor for the democratization of the relations between states, and to make every effort to contribute as substantially as possible to solving the many and complex international problems, in the interest of peace and progress in the world.

12105

CS0: 2700

ROMANIA

OHIO STATE CELEBRATION HAILED BY ACADEMICIAN

Bucharest CONTEMPORANUL in Romanian 6 May 77 p 4

[Article by Academician Emil Condurachi: "International Celebrations Occasioned by the Centennial of Independence"]

[Text] The 100-year anniversary of our country's winning of national independence--a historic moment of crucial importance to the Romanian nation's social, economic, and cultural progress--constitutes the occasion for numerous celebrations of a scientific and cultural nature organized in various countries of the world, a sign of the actuality of the idea of independence as a motivating force in the entire history of mankind, a sign of the well-deserved esteem enjoyed by the domestic and foreign policies of the Romanian party and state. In the month of April, the Romanian Independence Centennial gave rise to a series of scientific and cultural-artistic observances under the auspices of Ohio State University in Columbus. The initiative came chiefly from American historians in Ohio, in particular Prof Arthur E. Adams, head of the American delegation, and Prof R. Burks, joined by university professors from Columbia (New York), Wayne State (Detroit), and Portland. For the space of three weeks, a number of the largest universities in the United States, on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and the Middle West, undertook to focus, on a high scientific level, on the significance of the struggle of Romanians for independence, liberty, sovereignty, and national unity and achieved and preserved through constant efforts. During that period, meetings and round tables were organized in New York's Romanian Library and the American Institute for Foreign Relations. In Columbus, where an international conference

was also organized to deal with multiple aspects of the past and future evolution of the peoples of Southeast Europe, numerous reports and papers presented by United States scholars emphasized the importance of a profound knowledge of the history of our people, the treasury of our spiritual values, and current policies.

The Romanian delegation, made up of Academicians Emil Condurachi, Constantin C. Giurescu, and Stefan Pascu, Profs Zoe Dumitrescu-Busulenga and Virgil Candea, Col Ilie Ceausescu, and Dr Aurel Ghibutiu, took part in all these observances, giving reports and papers of unanimously esteemed scientific value. Thus, Academicians Constantin C. Giurescu and Stefan Pascu discussed at length problems relating to the unity and permanence of the Romanian people in these lands, and characteristic aspects of the autonomy of the Romanian Principalities. In their papers, Academician Emil Condurachi and Profs Zoe Dumitrescu-Busulenga and Virgil Candea discussed the significance of the monument at Adamclisi for our 1000-year history, and specific problems in the history of our culture--tradition and innovation in Romanian culture. The contribution of the Romanian army in the 1877-1878 war of independence and the directions of modern Romania's economic development were the subjects of reports by Col Ilie Ceausescu and Dr of Economics Aurel Ghibutiu.

Special mention should be made of contributions by several outstanding American specialists, who in their papers dealt with aspects relating to those presented in the Romanian delegation's papers: Prof Fr. Kellogg (Arizona) spoke on modern Romania's national problems before and after gaining independence; Prof. E. Garrison Walters (Ohio) spoke on Romania's internal political problems during the war of independence; Prof Kemal Karpas (Wisconsin at Madison), a man of Turkish origin from Romania and a good friend of our country, spoke on the Ottoman Empire and Romanian independence; Prof M. Speidel (Hansai) and Prof M. Todd (Wichita) spoke on the significance of the monument at Adamclisi and Trajan's Column in the history of the Romanian nation; Prof Dvoicenco (Monmouth College) spoke on Mihai Viteazul and the first unification of the three Romanian Principalities. Discussions and conclusions on all these reports and papers enjoyed the active and competent participation of Prof Walter Bacon (Nebraska), Prof Glenn E. Torrey and Glee E. Wilson (Kansas), Robert Walton (Wayne State), John Rosser and Radu Florescu (Boston College), and others. At the conclusion of this abundant scientific program, on the evening of 6 April, Ohio's Lt Governor Richard Celeste presented each of the seven members of the Romanian delegation with a certificate of honor, which emphasized in warm words the Romanian's people's efforts to preserve and strengthen their national existence, their struggle to defend their independence and political sovereignty, their contribution to international political affairs, and the esteem enjoyed by our country:

"The dynamics and formation of Romania's history have their roots in the strong national feelings of the Romanian nation. Animated by the most profound human values, this small country has played a unique role on the world scene.

"With gradual but continuous efforts to gain greater economic, political, and cultural independence, Romania has enlisted in a unique way in the great battle to affirm before world opinion, giving substance to spirit, the pride and unity of aspirations that infuse the history of the country.

"With a unique and fine understanding of the forces which determine Romania's future, you have shared many inestimable values, and participation in this observance is of a most significant character. Marked by a desire to teach and to exchange ideas, this occasion will undoubtedly contribute positively to a climate of understanding in the world.

"With much admiration and respect let me say 'Welcome to Columbus, Ohio', and express my sincere belief that your visit will take place in a memorable atmosphere of harmony and friendship."

The 250 specialists from numerous American and European university campuses watched a performance of Romanian folk music and dance, presented in honor of the participants by the "Haiducii" folklore group, organized with talent, skill, and dedication. Those who interpreted our lovely songs and doinas or emphasized, by means of the beautiful costumes and vivacity of folk dance, the values of the artistic creativity of the Romanian nation throughout the expanse of our country were--with just a few exceptions--American students attending this celebrated university. It was one more homage and warm appreciation accorded in this way to the Romanian people, their folk poetry and art.

The days devoted to the centennial of Romania's state independence offered the Romanian delegation numerous occasions of scientific and patriotic satisfaction, due to the attentiveness which the American specialists accord the study of the past and present history of the peoples of Southeast Europe as well as certain problems related to the prospects of their future development. Thus, within the framework of the conference held from 7 through 9 April in Columbus, Ohio, problems directly related to the history of the Romanian nation, its rich cultural and traditions, and the development of its current economic, political, and cultural life occupied a prominent place within the overall program of the conference. An enumeration of just a few of the reports and papers presented on this occasion is, we believe, especially indicative of the interest evoked by the proud history of our nation. Prof G. Bobango spoke on "The Romanians in America: The First Generation 1900-1920"; and, in a second paper, on "The Cuza Era"; Prof Paul Quinlan spoke on Romanian-American relations between the wars; Prof Glenn E. Torrey spoke on Romania in the two world wars; Prof Walter Bacon spoke

on "Romania After 1918"; Prof. Ladis Kristol spoke on "1877 and the Development of the Romanian National Consciousness"; Prof. J. Lampe spoke on "Transylvania's Commercial Relations and Their Implications in Shaping the Romanian National Movement (1750-1860)"; Prof. Walter Bacon spoke on the independence of Romanian foreign policy; Prof. Robert Weiner spoke on Romania and the United Nations; Profs. Constantin C. Giurescu, Vevendra Varma and Boiko, and Radu Florescu spoke on Vlad Tepes.

Papers dealing with Romanian literary history and folklore were given by Gwen Kirkpatrick (Tudor Arghezi), Ed. Neugaard (similar folklore motifs in Romania and Iberia), Craif Packard (Balkan comparative studies in musical instruments), and so on. One entire session was devoted to the works of the great artist Brancusi, analyzed and appraised specially by Prof. Florence Hetzler of Fordham University in her excellent and lively paper "The Poetry and Sculpture of Brancusi," followed by other papers including one presented by Ion Monafu of New York's Romanian Library. We could, of course, add many more aspects of our present history represented among the abundant topics of this important conference, discussions and conclusions participated in both by members of the delegation and by numerous specialists from American universities.

One thing is, moreover, certain--namely, that in spite of the complexity of international economic and political life, in spite of the problems--some of them of special gravity--of domestic life in the United States, the interest and sympathy we experienced on the occasion of this double observance in Columbus, Ohio, as well as other great university campuses in the United States, demonstrate that the glorious struggle waged in the past by the Romanian nation to affirm its politics and culture, to gain its political independence and affirm its sovereignty, also the policy of peace and co-operation with all the nations of the world, a policy so clearly defined and fostered by Socialist Romania's President, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, have borne fruit and justly earned a well-deserved esteem. During those three weeks all of us sensed that esteem, associated everywhere and constantly with feelings of warm friendship with which our American colleagues surrounded us, a manifestation of the respect for our nation, which has forged, through very frequently bitter times, a proud history, a culture whose values are appreciated throughout the world.

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ROMANIA

PARTY MEASURES INCREASE AID TO LARGE FAMILIES

Bucharest SCINTEIA TINERETULUI in Romanian 9 May 77 p 5

[Article: "With Regard to Measures Established by the Executive Political Committee of the CC RCP in Connection With Increasing State Allocations for Children, Grants Given to Mothers With Many Children, and Other Grants"]

[Text] The program for raising wages and other income and the people's standard of living in the 1976-1980 five-year plan, worked out at the initiative and under the direct guidance of RCP Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in order to implement the decisions of the 11th RCP Congress aimed at a steady rise in the material and spiritual well-being of all our people, calls for increasing state allocations for children, grants given to mothers with many children, and other grants. Together with the other provisions relating to a general rise in working people's income, these measures are of a nature to create the best possible conditions for the upbringing and education of children, for the shaping and all-around schooling of the younger generation.

The principal measures embodied in the program for raising wages and other income and the people's standard of living in the 1976-1980 five-year plan, relating to allocations for children, grants given to mothers with many children, and other grants, are as follows:

1) The state allocation for children that is provided to all categories of working people, in accordance with legal provisions, is increased by an average of 30 percent.

The state allocation is given for all children up to the age of 16 who are supported by their family.

2) Maximum incomes with respect to which the amount of state allocation for children is established, also increased allocations, compared to present ones, are as follows:

Comparative Table Showing the Present and Increased Amounts of State Allocations for Children

Maximum Monthly Income, Lei												
		(2)	(5)		(3)		(1)		(4)		(6)	
		-- Retribuții actuale brute sau pensii	Până la 1560		1561--2060		2061--2560		2561--3060		3061--4060	
		Mediu	Până la 1390		1391--1790		1791--2195		2196--2600		2601--3400	
		(1)	(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)	
		-- Retribuții și pen- sii majorate în etapa a II-a	Până la 1800		1801--2300		2301--2800		2801--3350		3351--4450	
		(7)	(8)		(9)		(10)		(11)		(12)	
		(6)	(7)		(8)		(9)		(10)		(11)	
		(5)	(6)		(7)		(8)		(9)		(10)	
		(4)	(5)		(6)		(7)		(8)		(9)	
		(3)	(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)		(8)	
		(2)	(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)		(7)	
		(1)	(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)	
		(0)	(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)	
(8)	Pentru primul copil	urban	160	210	130	170	110	140	110	140	110	140
(9)	Pentru al doilea copil	rural	110	140	80	100	60	80	60	80	60	80
(10)	Pentru al treilea copil	urban	170	220	140	180	120	160	110	140	110	140
(11)	Pentru al patrulea copil	rural	120	160	90	120	70	90	60	80	60	80
(12)	Pentru al cincilea copil	urban	190	250	160	210	140	180	120	160	110	140
(13)	Pentru al șaselea copil	rural	140	180	110	140	90	120	70	90	60	80
(14)	Pentru al șaptelea copil	urban	190	250	160	210	140	180	120	160	110	140
(15)	Pentru al optulea copil	rural	140	180	110	140	90	120	70	90	60	80
(16)	Pentru al nouălea copil și următorii	urban	190	250	160	210	140	180	120	160	110	140

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|----|---|-----|------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 1. | Environment | 5. | Up to | 11. | For fourth child |
| 2. | Present gross wage or pension | 6. | Present | 12. | For fifth child |
| 3. | Present net income | 7. | Increased | 13. | For sixth child |
| 4. | Wages and pensions increased in Stage Two | 8. | For first child | 14. | For seventh child |
| | | 9. | For second child | 15. | For eighth child |
| | | 10. | For third child | 16. | For ninth child or more |

The increase in state allocations for children will be made just as in the case of increasing wages to all categories of personnel, in two stages, namely:

-- on 1 September 1977, 50 percent of the established increase will be granted;

-- in the course of 1979, the rest of the increase will be granted, so that all categories of working people who benefit from state allocations for children in accordance with the law will receive the total increased amount of allocations provided for in the above table.

3) Starting on 1 August 1977, a new system will be instituted for mothers who are caring for more children up to the age of 18. Within the framework of this system grants will be provided to mothers taking care of five or more children, whereas under the present conditions grants are given only in the case of eight children or more.

At the same time, there will be a 150-lei increase in grants now provided who are caring for eight or nine children, and a 200-lei increase in grants to those caring for 10 or more children.

Under these conditions, the amount of monthly grants given to mothers with many children is as follows:

Number of Children Cared For	Present Grant (lei per month)	Increased Grant (lei per month)
5 or 6 children	--	200
7 children	--	350
8 or 9 children	200	350
10 or more children	300	500

Grants shown in the above table are provided to mothers for life.

4) Mothers who give birth to a third child (or more) will receive a fixed payment of 1,000 lei on the birth of each child.

5) Grants provided to wives of military men on duty, who have children up to the age of eight, or are pregnant, starting in the fifth month of pregnancy, who are employed and have no other means of livelihood, also those who are unable to work, are increased as follows:

-- from 150 to 350 lei for wives domiciled in an urban environment;

-- from 100 to 200 lei for wives domiciled in a rural environment.

In order to implement the established measures, the state will allocate substantial supplementary funds, which will rise by an average of three billion lei annually. Of the total supplementary funds allocated, about 2.2 billion lei annually are earmarked to cover the 30-percent rise in state allocations for children, and about 700 million lei annually are assigned to support the new system of grants to families with more children.

All these funds, together with other expenditures earmarked to finance social-cultural measures, amount to a substantial increase compared with the last five-year plan. Thus, social-cultural outlays financed from the budget are increased by about 100 billion lei compared with the preceding five-year plan--44.1 percent.

The measures established by the Executive Political Committee constitute one more expression of our party's and state's concern to ensure the best possible conditions for the upbringing and education of children, of constant efforts to provide a steady increase in the material and spiritual standard of living of all the people.

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SIGNIFICANCE OF SPRING EXERCISES UNDERLINED

Belgrade NARODNA ARMIJA in Serbo-Croatian 14 Apr 77 p 1

/Editorial by Ivo Tominc: "Spring Exercises"/

/Text/ Experience teaches that practical training, practical tests are the best way for servicemen and their seniors, commands and units, to prepare themselves for everything that awaits them in armed struggle. New opportunities are on the way: spring has come, a time for testing what has been learned during the winter in classrooms and workrooms, at local exercise grounds and firing ranges.

We have already said it: we need to learn everything essential to the conduct of armed struggle. That is exactly our starting point: members of the armed forces train for a nationwide defensive war in which all forms of armed struggle play the predominant role. Accordingly, spring exercises are an occasion for locating shortcomings in--shall we say--theoretical training. At the same time, this will be an excellent opportunity to test in practice the valuable experience gained during last year's exercises (Golija-76 and others).

Let us say a word or two about these experiences of ours, which must constantly have their rightful place in spring exercises and all other exercises.

Our concept of nationwide defense and its foundations provide, in themselves, a variety of original solutions. More than that: they open the doors wide for us to display constant creativeness. On the other hand, they require us to be unusually well acquainted with the essentials of the concept. In our search for new solutions with which to enrich our original and unique concept of nationwide defense, we cannot seek models and solutions somewhere abroad. Hence, we ourselves must constantly search out new solutions for the conduct of combat and battle, proceeding from knowledge of the concept and our experiences. The conclusion to be drawn is uncomplicated: our spring exercises, and all our other exercises, will

be successful to the extent that we ourselves are abundant in knowledge about modern warfare and to the extent that we are aware primarily of our own solutions from the armed struggle that we ourselves have waged.

Let us also say this: we are celebrating our supreme commander's anniversaries this year with work. For precisely this reason, we are obliged, while going about our everyday duties, to return to the study of Comrade Tito's instructions, decisions, and orders during our national liberation war, to analyze them in detail once again, since this would be invaluable in the conduct of nationwide warfare. We are thereby returning to the very source of our concept of nationwide warfare, and it is there that we shall best catch sight of Tito's original solutions in the realm of military science and tactics. Wartime practice has confirmed their worth. They eventually formed the basis for the formulation and evolution of the concept of our modern defensive warfare. There is truly no better chance for this than for us to test ourselves and our units, equipped with new knowledge and insights, during spring exercises again this year on our exercise fields, along with all other factors in nationwide defense, especially territorial defense units.

In doing so, we shall be repaying a debt to our supreme commander: by consistently training our units in the spirit of the concept of nationwide defense and on the foundations of Tito's military thinking, we shall be constantly enriching the everyday practice of our operations--the practice of preparing our units for the successful conduct of armed struggle in nationwide defensive warfare.

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